

Ser. No.10/084,773
Amdt. dated August 4, 2006
Reply to Office action of May 4, 2006

PU020045

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (previously amended) An outdoor unit (24) for a satellite television ground system (10) comprising:

downlink circuitry operative to receive first and second satellite television signals from first and second satellites, process the first and second satellite television signals, and provide the processed first and second satellite television signals to an indoor unit (30) of the satellite television ground system (34,36); and

uplink circuitry operative to receive an uplink signal from the indoor unit (30), process the received uplink signal, and provide the processed uplink signal to a satellite transmitting antenna when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites (42).

2. (previously amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 1, wherein the uplink circuitry is further operative to receive an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit.

3. (original) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 2, wherein the uplink control signal comprises an uplink data signal and an uplink oscillator signal.

4. (previously amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 3, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from one of the first or second satellite television signals.

5. (currently amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 4, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from a frequency conversion error data from one of the first or second satellite television signals.

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6. (previously amended) An outdoor unit (24) for a satellite television ground system comprising:

means for receiving first and second satellite television signals from first and second satellites (16,18);

means for processing the first and second satellite television signals (34,36);

means for providing the processed first and second satellite television signals to an indoor unit of the satellite television ground system (38);

means for receiving an uplink signal from the indoor unit (42);

means for processing the received uplink signal (90,99); and

means for providing the processed uplink signal to a satellite transmitting antenna when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites (42).

7. (previously amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 6, further comprising:

means for receiving an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit.

8. (original) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 7, wherein the uplink control signal comprises an uplink data signal and an uplink oscillator signal.

9. (original) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 8, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from one of the first and second satellite television signals.

10. (currently amended) The outdoor unit (24) of claim 9, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from a frequency conversion error data from one of the first or [and] second satellite television signals.

11. (previously amended) In an outdoor unit (24) of a satellite television ground system (10), a method of providing an uplink communication with a television broadcasting satellite comprising the steps of:

receiving first and second satellite television signals from first and second satellites (16,18);

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processing the first and second satellite television signals (34,36);
providing the processed first and second satellite television signals to an indoor unit of the satellite television ground system (32,38);
receiving an uplink signal from the indoor unit;
processing the received uplink signal (42); and
providing the processed uplink signal to a satellite transmitting antenna when the downlink circuitry is frequency locked to signals from one of the first or second satellites.

12. (previously amended) The method of claim 11, further comprising:

receiving an uplink control signal indicating a frequency locked condition to signals from one of the first or second satellites from the indoor unit.

13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein the uplink control signal comprises an uplink data signal and an uplink oscillator signal.

14. (original) The method of claim 13, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from one of the first and second satellite television signals.

15. (original) The method of claim 14, wherein the uplink oscillator signal is derived from frequency conversion error data from one of the first and second satellite television signals.

16. (previously presented) The outdoor unit of claim 7 where the presence of the uplink data signal or uplink oscillator signal is required to enable the transmitter section of the outdoor unit.

17. (previously presented) The method of claim 11 in which both an uplink oscillator signal and an uplink data signal indicating successful reception of an encoded data segment is required to enable the transmitter of the outdoor unit.